

*Office of the Vice President, Dean and Director**College of Agriculture
314 Morrill Hall
P.O. Box 5562
Fargo, ND 58105-5562*

June 2003

We are pleased to support the 2003 edition of *North Dakota Agricultural Statistics*. The partnership between North Dakota State University and the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service continues to be an important alliance. The statistical data and services that are provided greatly enhance our ability to address issues and challenges facing producers and the agricultural industry in general.

The detailed statistics found in this publication are especially useful as we plan and develop agriculture program initiatives. The data helps us focus on strategies that will negate the adverse economic impact of low commodity prices as well as weather and disease-related problems. It also enhances discussion about research initiatives to promote technological advances and diversification of North Dakota agriculture.

We commend the dedicated efforts of the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service and look forward to our continued partnership. With this data, our ability to respond to North Dakota needs is greatly enhanced.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Jensen, J.D.
Vice President and Dean for Agriculture,
Food Systems, and Natural Resources

